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Serial No. 10/657,731
60130-1883; 02MRA0333AMENDMENTIN THE CLAIMS:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A vehicle door latch control system, comprising:
a latch mechanism motor;
a bus;
at least one occupant-operable regulator; and
a door controller connected to the latch mechanism motor, the bus and the at least one occupant-operable regulator, wherein the door controller includes door controller logic that detects a fault in the bus and that reassigns a further function to the at least one occupant-operable regulator, wherein the further function is~~assigns~~ control of the latch mechanism motor ~~to the at least one occupant-operable regulator upon detection of the fault, and~~
wherein the door controller logic operates the latch mechanism motor to a security locking state when the door controller detects actuation of the at least one occupant-operable regulator.
- 2-3. (CANCELLED)
4. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 1, wherein the at least one occupant-operable regulator is at least one selected from the group consisting of an inside door regulator, a central locking regulator, and a window lifter regulator.
5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The system of claim 4, wherein the at least one occupant-operable regulator is the inside door regulator and the vehicle door latch control system further includes an inside door regulator contact, wherein the door controller logic operates the latch mechanism motor when the fault is detected in the bus and when the inside door regulator contact indicates that the inside door regulator is actuated.
6. (ORIGINAL) The system of claim 1, wherein the bus is a multiplexed bus.

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7. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The system of claim 1, further including a door closing contact, wherein the door controller logic operates the latch mechanism motor when the fault is detected in the bus and when the door closing contact indicates that a vehicle door is closed.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A door controller for a vehicle door, comprising:
a first terminal to connect the door controller to a bus;
a second terminal to connect the door controller to a latch mechanism motor;
at least one regulator terminal to connect the door controller to at least one occupant-operable regulator;
detection logic that detects a fault in the bus connected to a bus connection terminal and that reassigns a further function to the at least one occupant-operable regulator, wherein the further function is control of the latch mechanism motor upon detection of the fault; and
security locking logic that detects operation of the at least one occupant-operable regulator and issues a security locking command to the latch mechanism motor to perform security locking of a door latch mechanism if the detection logic detects the fault in the bus.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for controlling a vehicle door latch system mechanism including a latch mechanism, a bus, and at least one occupant-operable regulator, the method comprising the steps of:

detecting a fault in the bus;
~~assigning~~ reassigning a further function to the at least one occupant-operable regulator, wherein the further function is control of the latch mechanism to the at least one occupant-operable regulator upon detection of the fault; and

operating the latch mechanism when the at least one occupant-operator regulator is actuated, wherein the step of operating includes security locking the latch mechanism.

10-11. (CANCELLED)

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, further comprising a step of detecting actuation of an inside door regulator, wherein the step of operating is conducted when the fault is detected in the bus and when actuation of the inside door regulator is detected.

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13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, further comprising a step of detecting a closed door, wherein a door controller logic operates a latch mechanism motor when the fault is detected in the bus and when the closed door is detected.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the at least one occupant-operable regulator is a window lifter regulator, and the step of operating is performed if the window lifter regulator is actuated.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 9, wherein the at least one occupant-operable regulator is an inside door opening regulator, and the step of operating is performed if the inside door opening regulator is actuated.